a cementitious composition according to the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-19 and insert new claims 30-48.

--30. A method for protecting a metal pipe useful in delivering drinking water from corrosion due to water passing therethrough comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a metal pipe for delivery of drinking water,

(b) depositing a cementitious composition on an inside surface of said metal pipe to form a lining therein, said cementitious composition comprising a cement and 5-30 weight% metakaolin, based on the weight of the cementitious composition when dry.

31. A method according to claim 30, wherein the cementitious composition comprises not more than 10 parts by weight metakaolin.

32. A method according to claim 30, wherein part of the cement is replaced with a cement replacement material in an amount of not more than 70 parts by weight, based on the weight of the cementitious composition when dry.

33. A method according to claim 32, wherein said cement replacement material is at least one of ground granulated blast furnace slag and pulverized fuel ash.

34. A method according to claim 30, wherein the cement is a hydraulic cement.

35. A method according to claim 34, wherein the hydraulic cement is calcium silicate cement.

36. A method according to claim 30, wherein the cementitious composition further comprises an aggregate material.

37. A method according to claim 30, wherein the cementitious composition further comprises fibers as reinforcement.

38. A method according to claim 30, wherein the cementitious composition further comprises water.

39. A method according to claim 38, wherein the cementitious composition comprises not more than 50 parts by weight water, based on the weight of the cementitious composition when wet.

40. A method according to claim 30, including, between steps (a) and (b), the step of mixing the cementitious composition with sand to form a cementitious mortar composition, prior to being applied to said surface.

41. A method according to claim 30, including, after step (b), a step of hardening said cementitious composition.

42. A drinking water pipe comprising a hollow metallic conduit and a coating provided on at least one of an internal and external surface of the conduit, wherein the coating comprises at least one cement in combination with metakaolin, and wherein the coating comprises 5 to 30 parts by weights metakaolin, based on the weight of the coating when dry.

43. A pipe according to claim 42, wherein the coating comprises not more than 10 parts by weight metakaolin.

44. A pipe according to claim 42, wherein part of the cement is replaced with a cement replaceable material in an amount of not more than 70 parts by weight.

45. A pipe according to claim 44, wherein said cement replacement material is at least one of ground granulated blast furnace slag and pulverized fuel ash.

46. A pipe according to claim 42, wherein the cement is calcium silicate cement.

47. A pipe according to claim 42, further comprising at least one of aggregate and fibers as reinforcement.

48. A pipe according to claim 47, wherein the coating comprises not more than 50 parts by weight water, based on the weight of the cementitious composition when wet.

REMARKS

By this Amendment the specification has been amended to better comply with U.S. practice, and claims 1-19 have been replaced by new claims 30-48, which have been drafted to better define the invention and overcome the examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112. Entry is in order.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 1-6, 8-11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 89/02878 (Heitzmann et al.), and he has rejected claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heitzmann et al. in view of WO 95/11863 (Allen et al.). The inventors believe these rejections cannot apply to the amended claims!